

Article
10-12-13

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A method for data transfer between a host system (210), a database (214, 215), and a terminal server (225, 226), the terminal server (225, 226) having a location, the method comprising the steps of:
- receiving at a host system (210), terminal server identification from a terminal server (225, 226);
 - querying a database (214, 215) to obtain service data associated with the location based on the terminal server identification; and
 - automatically sending the location specific service data from the host system (210) to the terminal server (225, 226).
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2. The method of claim 1 wherein the database (214, 215) includes a first record that associates the terminal server identification with the location, and the step of querying the database (214, 215) includes a step of determining the location based on the terminal server identification data from the first record:
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3. The method of claim 2 wherein the database (214, 215) further includes a record that associates the location with service data that is specific to the location, and the step of querying the database (214, 215) further comprises the step of determining the location specific service data based on the determined location.
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4. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
- establishing a data connection between the terminal server (225, 226) and a client computer;
 - receiving the location specific service data at the terminal server (225, 226); and
 - forwarding the location specific service data from the terminal server (225, 226) to the client computer.
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5. The method of claim 4 wherein the step of establishing a data connection is carried out prior to the step of receiving the terminal server identification.
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6. The method of claim 4 wherein the step of establishing a data connection further

3 comprises the step of receiving a dial-up modem connection from a client computer.

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2 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the terminal server identification comprises a
3 network address associated with the terminal server (225, 226).

1 8. The method of claim 7 wherein the step of receiving the terminal server
2 identification further comprises the step of receiving a data packet from the terminal server (225,
3 226), the data packet including the terminal server (225, 226) network address.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein the data packet includes request data received at
2 the terminal server (225, 226) from the client computer, the request data identifying an
3 information service.

1 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the step of querying the database (214, 215)
2 further comprises querying based on the terminal server identification and the request data; and
3 the location specific service data obtained by the query of the database (214, 215) is associated
4 with both the terminal server identification data and with the service identified by the request
5 data.

1 11. A host system (210) comprising:
2 a database (214, 215) including a record associating a terminal server identification
3 with service data specific to a location;
4 an interface to exchange data with a terminal server (225, 226) situated at a location via
5 a communications link; and
6 a processor configured to receive the terminal server identification from the data
7 interface, to query the database (214, 215) for location specific service data associated with the
8 terminal server identification, and to send the location specific service data obtained by the
9 query to the datainterface for transmission to the terminal server (225, 226).

1 12. The host system (210) of claim 11 wherein:
2 the terminal server identification comprises a network address associated with the
3 terminal server (225, 226); and

4 the interface includes packet processing circuitry to receive a data packet from the
5 terminal server (225, 226) and extract the terminal server identification from a header region of
6 the data packet.

1 13. The host system (210) of claim 12 wherein the network address comprises an
2 internet protocol address.

1 14. The host system (210) of claim 11 wherein the database (214, 215) includes a
2 disk storage medium comprising a plurality of records associating terminal server
3 identifications with locations and a plurality of records associating locations with service data.

1 15. The server of claim 14 further comprising a software storage media coupled to the
2 processor, the media storing instructions to configure the processor to query the database (214,
3 215), instructions to retrieve locations associated with terminal server identifications and
4 instructions to query the database (214, 215) to retrieve service data associated with locations.

1 16. A computer program residing on a computer-readable medium, comprising
2 instructions for causing a computer to:
3 receive terminal server identification from a terminal server (225, 226);
4 query a database (214, 215) to obtain location specific service data associated with the
5 terminal server identification; and
6 send the location specific service data to the terminal server (225, 226).

1 17. The program apparatus of claim 16 wherein the instructions to query the database
2 (214, 215) comprise instructions to query the database (214, 215) to determine a location based
3 on the received terminal server identification.
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1 18. The program apparatus of claim 16 wherein the terminal server identification
2 comprises a network address associated with the terminal server (225, 226).

1 19. The program apparatus of claim 16 wherein the instructions to receive the
2 terminal server identification comprises instructions to receive a data packet from the terminal
3 server (225, 226), the data packet including the terminal server network address.

1 20. The program apparatus of claim 19 wherein the data packet further comprises
2 request data received at the terminal server (225, 226) from a client computer, the request data
3 identifying a service.

1 21. The program apparatus of claim 20 wherein:
2 the instructions to query the database (214, 215) comprise instructions to query the
3 database (214, 215) based on the terminal server identification and the request data; and the
4 location specific service data obtained by the query is associated with both the terminal server
5 identification and with the service identified by the request data.

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AMENDED SHEET